

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment in supplement to the Amendments filed on July 6 and July 16, 2004, and in response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment, dated July 23, 2004, is respectfully requested.

In particular, the present Amendment is identical to the Supplemental Amendment filed on July 16, 2004, except for the renumbering of the claims. More specifically, after studying the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment dated July 23, 2004, it was determined that the numbering of the claims has been incorrect ever since the May 7, 2003 Amendment was filed. In particular, in addition to canceling claims 1-13 and 19-22, the January 23, 2002 Preliminary Amendment also canceled the original claims 28-31. Notwithstanding this, the May 7, 2003 Amendment submitted a new set of claims which were improperly numbered as claims 28-36. In light of the cancellation of the original claims 28-31, the claims submitted with the May 7, 2003 Amendment should have been numbered as claims 32-40.

Following this, each of the Amendments filed on November 17, 2003, July 6, 2004 and July 16, 2004 continued the numbering error. Thus, the amendments of July 6 and July 16, 2004 canceling claims 1-37 should have been canceling claims 1-41. In addition, the claims identified as claims 38-51 should have been numbered as claims 42-55. Accordingly, the present Amendment corrects this numbering error.

Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment for correction of the numbering error, and in response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment, is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that there are any other points which may be clarified or otherwise disposed of either by telephone discussion or by personal interview, the

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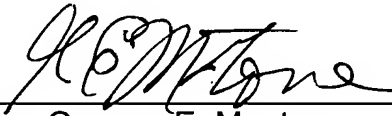
Docket No.: 520.35237VX3

Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 520.35237VX3), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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